

**And remind (others), for the reminder most certainly benefits the Believers
Surah Zhaariyaat, verse 55**

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THE GHAZZA CRISIS (PART 2)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE CRISIS

Q: Is it permissible to give zakaat to the Muslims in Ghazza (Gaza)?

A: There are Muslim organizations that usually funnel zakaat funds and other donations to the Palestinian Muslims. If the organization is trustworthy and reliable, and they give an assurance that the zakaat will be distributed in accordance with the Shariah, it will be permissible to give your zakaat to this organization. When donating zakaat, the wakeel (the organization) should be clearly informed that the donation is zakaat. Nafl sadaqah should also be donated for the beleaguered Muslims of Ghazza.

Q: Is the defense by Hamas against the current attack by Israel considered a jihad according to Shariah?

A: There is no doubt that this is a jihad. According to the Glorious Quran and the hadeeth of our Master Hazrat Muhammed (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) defending one's honour, life, or property against enemy attack is a jihad. The books of Fiqh state that when kuffar invade a Muslim country, jihad becomes faradh upon every capable inhabitant of that country, male or female. This proves that defending one's country from marauding kuffar is a jihad of the highest category. Hence, such a jihad is *faradhul 'ayn*, that is, compulsory upon every adult male and female of that country.

Q: Do we support Hamas in this struggle? Is Hamas an Islamic group? Do we support the attack they launched against Israel on October, 7 this year? What about the women and children they killed in this attack?

A: There are four parts to this question; each part will be answered separately.

- (1) Hamas represents the Palestinians and is fighting the oppression and tyranny of Israel against the general Palestinian population. The Quran and hadeeth praise those who resist zhulm, and command us to support such a resistance. Allah Ta'ala states: *"The Believers are people who, when afflicted by transgression / oppression, will take revenge (by fighting back)"* (Surah Shura, aayat 39) Rasoolullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) commanded us to *"help your Muslim brother, whether he is the oppressor or the oppressed"* (Saheeh Bukhari)

Helping the oppressor means to stop him from committing oppression. Another hadeeth refers to helping those who are calling out for help as a societal responsibility. In another verse of the Holy Quran, Allah Ta'ala states: **“And why do you not fight in the Path of Allah, and for those who are downtrodden among men, women, and children; (Surah Nisaa, verse 75).**

- (2) Hamas is a Islamic group, but as is the case with many such movements, they have their shortcomings and do not always adhere to the correct Shar'ee procedures in some matters. Allah Ta'ala knows best.
- (3) We must support Hamas and all Palestinians in their struggle against Zionist oppression and aggression, which have been taking place for the past 70 odd years. But this support does not necessarily mean that we support the wrongs or un-Islamic practices that they commit. There are numerous Muslim groups, organizations, and movements in the world today. None of them can say they follow the Shariah in its entirety. Yet, we support these groupings only in the good that they do, as long as they don't commit clear kufr.
- (4) **The Hamas attack on Israel on 7 October:** In this attack, if Hamas fighters killed women and children, then this must be condemned in the strongest terms, for this constitutes a major haraam act in Islam. The Noble Messenger of Allah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) prohibited the killing of old men, women, and children. However, what the Israeli and other western media reported regarding the people who died in that Hamas attack has been proven to be false and misleading. The Zionists have a history of lying to justify their oppression. This will be discussed further in another publication, Insha Allah. Following are quotes from investigative journalists regarding the October 7 attack:

Evidence is now emerging that up to half the Israelis killed were combatants; that Israeli forces were responsible for some of their own civilian deaths; and that Tel Aviv disseminated false 'Hamas atrocities' stories to justify its devastating air assault on Palestinian civilians in Gaza. Instead of the wholesale massacre of civilians claimed by Israel, incomplete figures published by the Hebrew newspaper Haaretz, show that almost half the Israelis killed by Hamas on that day were combatants - soldiers or police. (The Cradle News – online news)

Further reports indicate that many of the people who died during this period, including those at a music festival were killed by Israeli air strikes. Israeli warplanes were called upon to bomb the area to kill Palestinian fighters, even if it meant sacrificing their own people. They dropped bombs indiscriminately in order to kill Hamas attackers. There are photographs that show burnt out cars with charred bodies inside them. Such devastation is consistent with bombs that are dropped from the air. Israeli warplanes, according to reports, bombed cars that were travelling away from the scene of the Hamas attack, believing that these cars were being driven by Hamas fighters. A few days after the attack journalists

discovered scores of civilian vehicles that were bombed and burnt, some of which still held burnt out bodies.

In light of these reports, we cannot say that Hamas' fighters were the cause of all these civilian deaths. It is possible, in the course of the attack, that some civilians were killed. Allah Ta'ala knows best.

Likewise, the reports of babies being beheaded, rape of women, and mutilation of bodies of women, were submitted by an organization known as ZAKA. This is a non-governmental Jewish organization for search and rescue, consisting of ordinary individual who have no medical skills. This group is noted for passing on false information and lying to enhance Israeli propaganda. Independent journalists have analyzed its claims and found them to be false and spurious. The New York Times, a supposedly reputable and respectable newspaper, published a report of the rape of a Jewish woman by Hamas fighters. This report was later debunked as false and concocted, based on an interview with family members of the so-called victim who later denied having mentioned anything about rape. For further information on the above read the Cradle News (online) and the Mondoweiss website (www.mondoweiss.net), the latter which provides unbiased and fair reporting on the situation in Palestine.

Thanks to alternate news outlets and social media, it has been proven that one cannot always believe the kuffar media outlets when it comes to reporting on Palestine and Muslims in general.

Q: Should we be boycotting Israeli goods and stores given the massacre that the Zionist government is inflicting on the people of Ghazza?

A: An economic boycott is indeed effective if it is done on a wide scale. For the Yahood, loss of income is a disaster. If Muslims engage in a total and widescale boycott of Israeli goods, it will go a long way to decreasing the Israeli source of funding. In some Muslim countries, the famous Starbucks coffee outlet had to close down due to loss of patronage and income. In America the McDonalds outlet instituted court action against a group who rallied people to boycott the franchise. Furthermore, if our money is used to fund the Israeli military, then a boycott of this nature is waajib. Besides weakening the economic position of the enemy, a boycott is also a strong statement of disgust and abhorrence at the zhulm they commit. Accordingly, this boycott must continue till the zhulm comes to an end. Allah Ta'ala knows best.

AND YOU SHALL SEE THE ZHAALIMEEN (OPPRESSORS) FEARFUL OF WHAT THEY HAD COMMITTED, WHILE ITS PUNISHMENT IS (CERTAINLY) GOING TO BEFALL THEM. (Surah Shoorā, verse 22)